

2017-2018 BUDGET QUESTION

Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Austin Public Health and Economic Development

REQUEST NO.: 127

REQUESTED BY: Garza

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REQUEST: According to the City's Strategic Plan for Workforce Development, there will be almost 29,000 jobs available in middle-skill occupations that pay an average annual wage greater than \$40,840 and over half of those are in the healthcare, information technology, or skilled trades occupational sectors. Please provide a list of programs provided by the community and by the city targeted at enrolling students into these courses of study and supporting students in persisting in these studies through academic support, childcare, stipends, the purchase of books, or work-training programs.

RESPONSE: The responses are provided below by department.

Austin Public Health:

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas:

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas has a social services agreement with Austin Public Health for the Ready to Work Collaborative. This program provides wraparound workforce development services which facilitate placement and employment retention. Services include job readiness training, case management, skills training, mental health counseling, job placement and retention services. Goodwill receives \$757,611 in annual funding from the City and has an annual goal of serving 300 unduplicated clients, and as a performance outcome measures the percent of those 300 clients that obtain employment.

As part of the services offered, the agreement with Goodwill provides occupational skills training which includes the following available credentials: PC Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant, Certified Apartment Maintenance Technician, HVAC Technician, Accounting/Bookkeeping, Administrative Assistant, Machinist, and Commercial Driver's License (CDL). The agency reports on the performance measures referenced here, and does not report on the number of clients that complete each different type of training curriculum. Clients receive assistance with all associated course costs and materials, as well as assistance with other barriers such as child care and transportation. Clients may also receive assistance with clothing and shoes for work and interviews and/or work supplies associated with construction and medical employment needs.

Workforce Solutions:

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas has a social services agreement with Austin Public Health for the Workforce and Education Readiness Continuum (WERC) which prepares residents with the skills and supports they need to increase their economic prosperity and achieve self-sufficiency by providing wrap-around education and workforce development services. Workforce receives \$2,718,528 annually from the City for the WERC program, which includes

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eight sub grantees that provide services for clients as part of the collaborative. This program provides adult literacy and basic education programs in addition to workforce development training, and has an overall annual goal of serving 1,300 clients annually with City funding. Of these clients, approximately 620 are measured for the percentage that obtains employment, while the others are measured for outcomes related to educational programming.

The job training component of WERC focuses on approved industry-recognized programs such as healthcare, skilled trades/manufacturing and information technology. The agency reports on the performance measures referenced here, and does not report on the number of clients that are enrolled in each type of industry training. Clients participating in WERC programming are eligible for assistance with childcare, and other resources such as emergency assistance for documented needs that are available to address barriers for clients. Additional assistance may be provided for obtaining identification documents and/or items necessary for interviewing or employment, such as uniforms, tools, work-appropriate attire, or a TABC/OSHA/Food Handler's Certificate. WERC is committed to serving clients no matter their level of education and work-ready progression. This includes limited English proficiency and/or other communications needs.

Patient to Practitioner:

The APH 1115 Waiver-funded Workforce Development project generates more qualified primary care practitioners in underserved communities of Travis County, specifically Registered Nurses. No other Federal funds are used for this project. This project expands Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) programs to prepare already-qualified, low-income, primarily minority, and first-generation-in-college adult students to become Registered Nurses, who will commit to work in community clinics and other settings serving Medicaid and indigent populations.

APH partnered with Capital IDEA to expand the Austin Community College Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 nursing classes. As a condition of their acceptance, the students will commit to work full-time in an HPSA (*Health Professional Shortage Areas*) or a MUA (*Medically Underserved Area*) for at least two years following their graduation.

Through this program, 16 ADNs graduated and obtained their license, 12 are working in a HPSA/MUA.

Because this project did not result in the number of ADNs originally anticipated and the time and cost to Capital IDEA was greater than Capital IDEA had anticipated, this project is in its last year. Additionally, the 1115 Waiver program is set to expire at the end of December 2017.

For the length of the contract with Capital IDEA (August 1, 2014 – October 31, 2018), Capital IDEA is anticipated to receive \$656,848.

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Economic Development:

The Capital Idea contract is the only contracted service provider from the Economic Development Department that provides wrap around services.

Organization	Programs	The Program Benefits
Capital Idea	Career Express Way, Healthcare, Tech & Trades, and College Prep	<p>COST: The program is free if you meet qualifications.</p> <p>MONEY FOR SCHOOL: ACC is paid directly to cover tuition.</p> <p>FUNDING FOR BOOKS: Book vouchers are provided to cover the cost of textbooks.</p> <p>CHILDCARE: Childcare assistance covers a substantial portion of childcare costs.</p> <p>EMERGENCY: find resources to help if a financial emergency arises.</p>